

THE AveNEWS



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2010

Lessons Learned from Bell

Rick Davis, ICMA-CM
Town Manager

There's never a good time to hear bad news about your profession. The story that broke a few months ago and again recently about public officials bilking millions out of the citizens of Bell, California gave everyone fodder for skepticism with regard to how their local government is administered. Could this happen in Fountain Hills? The answer is surprisingly YES. It could happen anywhere if proper controls are not in place, the local entity is not transparent in the way it does business, and citizens are not engaged. Those are the lessons we should take away from Bell. Fortunately for all of us, the Town enjoys circumstances that will minimize the chance of a "Bell" occurring in Fountain Hills.

CONTROLS

First and foremost, the Town has implemented extensive financial controls and policies that are based on State and Federal law, as well as Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) and Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) best practices and rules. In addition, the Town adheres to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and passes through an exhaustive audit every fall. The Town's

bond rating meanwhile, which indicates the confidence investors and financial

institutions have in our fiscal practices, is very sound; and the Town annually earns the GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.

TRANSPARENCY

The budget process itself is a very lengthy endeavor which runs from August to June every year. Along the way, the Town makes every effort to keep citizens informed regarding budget issues. In addition to the required public hearings, the Town presents at least two open houses addressing the budget. Our budget, throughout the year, remains on the Town website and our finance staff brief the Council and citizens several times a year on the condition of Town finances. Finally, we've engaged the efforts and expertise of several people, including elected officials, in the formation of the budget. Transparency isn't just a stylish slogan or motto, it is a way of doing business in Fountain Hills. My experience in local government has taught me that the more people feel connected to their city or town, the greater the level of trust bestowed by the citizens. This trust then



makes our mission of enhancing everyone's quality of life a lot easier.

ENGAGEMENT

We can actually be complementary of one town without being disparaging about another. So let's just say that Fountain Hills is composed of a citizenry that is unique in its level of education, social consciousness, and civic engagement. Our citizens are not accustomed to taking what they are told at face value. They want to know why things are the way they are and they expect their local government to be responsive to their questions and concerns.

Controls, transparency, and engagement are three reasons why I believe a Bell, California scenario is unlikely in Fountain Hills. Nevertheless, as Thomas Jefferson said, "The price of freedom is eternal vigilance." You must remain engaged and informed; and I give you my commitment that we will work daily to keep earning your trust.

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Come Out and Take Pride!

Calling all residents who wish to further enhance our beautiful town: **Fountain Hills Take Pride Day** is just the opportunity to come together and offer two or three hours of volunteer service in order to achieve that! Last year the event was known as “Make a Difference Day” and this year it will be called, “Fountain Hills Take Pride Day.”

“This is a wonderful opportunity for residents to participate in sprucing up the Town and generally building relationships with fellow citizens,” says Town Manager Rick Davis. There are a variety of worksite projects ready for the anticipated volunteers on Saturday, October 23rd, from 9 a.m. to 12 Noon. All ages of residents are welcome and should report to Golden Eagle Park, 15900 E. Golden Eagle Boulevard, at 9 a.m. for coffee, juice, and breakfast rolls in addition to their worksite assignment. Mayor Schlum and staff members will kick off this great morning of community service and help instill a sense of pride and care for the Town.

Projects include painting and cleaning at some of the schools, trash and weed pick-up throughout the town, planting a wildflower and desert garden at Fountain Park, cleaning-up around the Community Center, sculpture cleaning, painting at the fire station, and others. The town has invited the Extended Hands Food Bank truck to be located at the Library parking lot from 9 a.m. – 12 Noon for furthering community spirit — so bring a can or two of food with you!

We are asking residents to please pre-register by going online at www.fh.az.gov or stopping by the Community Center or Town Hall front desks, or calling 480-816-5108.



Town Secures New Grant, Signals Go Up on Shea

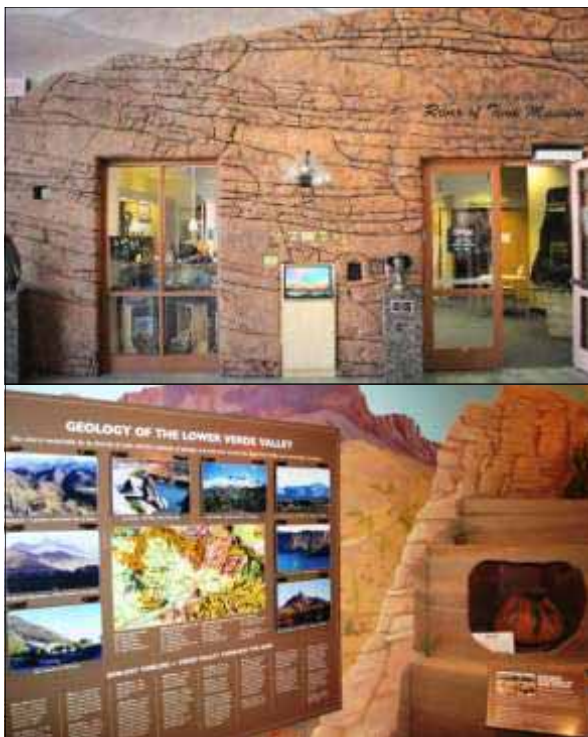
The Development Services Department has been successful in securing \$152,400 from MCDOT's Special Project Fund to mill and overlay Shea from the Beeline Highway to the eastern Town limit. This work will be added to the Shea & Saguaro Intersection project, which is currently at 60% design. This project will widen westbound Shea Boulevard to three lanes from the east Town limit to Technology Drive. Construction is anticipated to start in the Spring/Summer of 2011 and there are no matching funds required from the Town.

The westbound Shea Blvd. Climbing Lane Federal-Aid project (with ADOT construction inspection) will be nearing completion over the next couple of weeks. At night this week, the contractor will finish-up traffic signal work (installing the electrical wiring, traffic signal cabinets, equipment inside the cabinets, and switching over to the newly completed electrical work). During the daytime this week, the contractor is completing the concrete curb ramps and sidewalk, as well as cleaning-up prior to final landscaping work (which will



include placing decomposed granite, small ground cover plants, and replacing damaged plants). The contractor anticipates removing the round-the-clock barricades on about Oct. 3 and opening up the third westbound lane to traffic. Intermittent barricading and lane closures will still be needed to accommodate specific items of work for the remainder of the project.

L. Alan Cruikshank River of Time Museum Expands Hours



As our Winter Visitors begin arriving back in the Valley, the local River of Time Museum will broaden its hours and open from Tuesday through Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m. each day, beginning October 19th.

Ileen Snoddy of SRP has stated that the River of Time Museum has "set the bar" for excellence for any museum of its size. Come visit — and learn about our past and how we have become who we are.

Docent trained volunteers will lead tours through this certified museum which tells the story of the Lower Verde River Valley - its geology and the people who have inhabited this area — and the importance of water to the Sonoran desert.

The River Bank Store features items not found anywhere else in the Valley. This is a fun place to shop for that unique gift for someone special or for yourself! Members of the Museum receive a 10% discount and you pay no sales tax!

The Museum is located in the Community Center Complex adjacent to the Library — 12901 N. La Montana Blvd. Fountain Hills — www.riveroftimemuseum.org.

Show Your Falcon Pride in October

HOMECOMING PARADE

Wednesday, October 6 @ 5:30 p.m. @ Avenue of the Fountains

Fountain Hills High School and the Town of Fountain Hills are excited to present the 3rd Annual Homecoming Parade on the Avenue of the Fountains. The community is invited to line the Avenue when as many as twenty-five high school and community organization floats and entries go by and show off their Falcon Pride. Many of the Town Center merchants will join the fun and decorate their store windows and host sidewalk sales the day of the parade. For those interested in one of the biggest high school football games of the year, Friday, October 8th, at 7 p.m. is the Big Game against the Payson Longhorns.

HOMECOMING TAILGATE PARTY

Friday, October 8 from 5-7 p.m. @ Golden Eagle Park

Join the fun before the BIG GAME! We will have a DJ, games, face painting, food, refreshments, and more! There will be contests and give-aways, along with an appearance by the Falcon Cheer Team to help get the crowd fired up before the game! Come out and support the Falcons as they face the Payson Longhorns. This event is co-sponsored by Community Services and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale - McKee Branch.



Boy Scout Motto Good Advice When Exploring the Great Outdoors

Over the next couple of years, there will be an increase in the number of mountain rescue related incidents. Because of the easy access to the Town's mountainous terrain, a growing number of citizens and tourists use the area for recreational activities. For a wide variety of reasons, victims become stranded and/or injured. The Fire Department is then called to assist in getting these victims to safety. Sometimes it involves a simple walk-down and, at times, it involves a very long, complex, technical rescue.

First and foremost, like any good Boy Scout, one must "Be Prepared." Don't be fooled, although the preserve is within our town limits, there are still remote and wild places that can present dangers in a multitude of ways to the unknowing hiker. Be in good physical condition and match your condition with the trail that you plan to hike. Some of you may have underlying medical conditions that prohibit you from heavy exercise. Those that suffer from any condition should check with their doctor first before venturing on the trails.

Hiking Safety Tips

- Plan your hike. Tell a family member or someone else about your location and expected time to return.
- Hiking clothes should be lightweight and light-colored.
- Use the appropriate footwear and bring a hat & sunglasses.
- Necessary supplies: sunscreen, cell phone, tweezers and a comb (for cactus thorns), and snacks- in addition to plenty of water.
- Avoid caffeine or alcohol to prevent dehydration.
- Try to hike with at least one other person, placing slower hikers in front to pace the group.
- Stay on the trail and be aware of your surroundings.

In addition, be aware of dangers posed by some of the insects and animals that live within our preserve. There are poisonous snakes within the preserve. Never disturb a reptile along the trail. If bitten by a rattlesnake, call 911 as soon as possible. Insects also pose a danger. We have seen several serious attacks from bees. Never disturb a bee hive! If allergic to bees, always carry your epi-pen as prescribed by your physician.



Things you will need to provide when calling 911

- Number you are calling from, so the dispatcher can call you back for up-dated information.
- Nature of the emergency.
- Location of the emergency, trail name, and trail marker number that you are closest to.

Our preserve system offers us a variety of opportunities to enjoy the beauty of the McDowell Mountains. In order to be safe on the trail, please always be prepared and aware of your physical condition. As always, if you become injured or lost, please call 911.

"Don't be fooled, although the preserve is within our town limits, there are still remote and wild places that can present dangers in a multitude of ways to the unknowing hiker."

Take Your Little Goblins to Halloween on the Avenue

Saturday, October 30 from 4-8 p.m.—
Avenue of the Fountains

Celebrate Halloween at this family friendly event that takes place on the Avenue of the Fountains. Merchants will be handing out candy, popcorn, treats, games, bouncers, and more! Costume dressed pets and pet owners will parade down the Avenue culminating in best costume judging and prizes. There will be monsters, ghosts, goblins and witches, a haunted mine, and other surprises! Dress-up the family and/or your pet in your favorite Halloween costume. Enter our costume contest and you could win a great prize! All prizes will be supplied by local merchants. After the costume contest, it's time for CANDY! Kids are welcome to fill-up their trick-or-treat goody bags with candy from all of the merchants on the Avenue of the Fountains. The Town of Fountain Hills is a proud sponsor of this event. For more information visit www.azpetsnpeople.com.



Art on the Avenue and Farmers' Market Return to the Avenue



Thursdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., beginning October 7 — Avenue of the Fountains

After a very successful start last year, the Art on the Avenue and Farmers' Market return to Fountain Hills and the Avenue of the Fountain. Come every Thursday and peruse some of the best artistic and culinary creations in the Great American Southwest.

Local artists display and sell their ware on the east end of the Avenue; while on the west end you can get fresh produce and homemade goodies.

2nd Annual "Back to School" County Fair at Four Peaks

Friday, October 1 from 5:30-9:00 p.m. — Four Peaks Park

Join the Fountain Hills PTO for its 2nd Annual "Back to School County Fair." This is a fun family night with inflatables, games, food, and raffles. Tickets can be purchased in advance or the night of the event. The Town of Fountain Hills is a proud sponsor of this event. If you are interested in being a sponsor or making a raffle donation, or for any other information, please contact Jill Reed at 602-558-1752 or www.fountainhillspto@live.com.





THE LATEST INFO ABOUT TEEN PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Spook-tacular Teen Party

Friday, October 29 from 6:30—9:30 p.m. at the McKee Branch of the Boys and Girls Club. Teens 13—17 are invited to this all new Halloween event sponsored by the Town of Fountain Hills Community Services Departments and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale.



Fabulously FUN Friday October 15th

Every Friday is Fabulously FUN Fridays! The next 3F is October 15th from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the Community Center. It'll be Movie Night—featuring Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince! Enter for a chance to win a Nickelodeon Slimed Dell Notebook. Also, dress in your best Harry Potter attire and enter to win Harkins movie tickets. Refreshments for sale at the movie. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. — so get their early!

Over-seeding Closes Some Parks



Various parks and facilities will be closed for over-seeding during the dates listed below. Staff has cut back the irrigation to dry-out the Bermuda grass and placed a turf growth regulator application to get the fields ready for the rye-seed application last month. The ball-fields turf will also be scalped a week prior to the seed application. Please stay off the turf and obey posted signs to help make the over-seeding successful. Thank you to Fountain Hills Little League for funding the over-seeding of Golden Eagle Park.

Golden Eagle Park

Field #1 - September 27 - October 17

Fountain Park

September 27-October 29

Seniors and Boomers Activities

Disease Prevention Through Diet, Exercise and Hormone Balance

Wednesday, October 13, 2010

from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. (followed by a question and answer session) at the Fountain Hills Community Center.



Kristina Rudgear, M.D. is the only integrative Endocrinologist in Arizona. Her approach to wellness always includes disease prevention, and she applies multiple methods to achieve optimal health. Dr. Rudgear will discuss ways to prevent high cholesterol, hypertension, metabolic syndrome, diabetes, and more through diet, exercise, and hormone balance.

Pre-register at the Community Center or call 480-816-5200, Monday – Friday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. and reference course # 5512. There is no fee for members of the Activity Center. The non-member fee is \$3. For more information, contact Senior Services at 480-816-5226 or visit the Town of Fountain Hills website at www.fh.az.gov.

The First Truly Global Musical Instrument Museum in the World

Thursday, October 21, 2010 from 1 – 2 p.m. (followed by a question and answer session) at the Fountain Hills Community Center.

Curator Matthew Hill will be speaking on the history of the museum and major accomplishments in the procurement of collections from around the world. There will be a PowerPoint presentation to educate the viewer regarding all aspects of the Museum from its inception. The

presentation will “walk us through the Museum” to see the instruments procured. In addition, Hill will relate his own personal experiences. He is the Curator of USA and Canada exhibits at the Musical Instrument Museum. Hill is currently completing his PhD at the University of Edinburgh on the development of the early electric guitar. He has been a regular contributor to international journals and conferences. Additionally, Hill has advised and been the curator of musical instrument exhibits in Dublin, London, and California, and he is

the Curator of the John C. Hall collection of musical instruments at



Rickenbacker International Corporation. In addition to his academic pursuits, he has enjoyed a varied musical life that includes being a Nashville player, art and music composer, and rockabilly doghouse bassist.

Preregister at the Community Center, or call 480-816-5200, Monday – Friday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. and reference course # 5505. There is no fee for members of the Activity Center. The non-member fee is \$3. For more information, contact Senior Services at 480-816-5226 or visit the Town of Fountain Hills website at www.fh.az.gov.

Influenza, H1N1, and Pneumonia Shots—Provided by Mollen Immunization Clinic

Thursday, October 7, 2010 and Thursday, November 4, 2010 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Fountain Hills Community Center. Registration is not required. Available while supplies last.

Cost: \$25 – Influenza/H1N1 (this is a combined shot). \$50- Pneumonia. Bring your primary insurance card. If you have contract insurances from any of the providers below there is no out of pocket charge.

MEDICARE (PART B – NO HMO), AETNA (with co-pay), MEDICARE COMPLETE, TRI CARE FOR LIFE, STERLING OPTION 1, PACIFICARE AZ / SECURE HORIZONS AZ, BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF ARIZONA, HEALTH NET OF ARIZONA (ALL PLANS), HUMANA (ALL PLANS), SUN HEALTH (MEDISUN) *Flu Only*, UNIVERSITY PHYSICIANS HEALTHCARE GROUP (HCG), UNIVERSITY FAMILY CARE (UFC),

UNITED MINE WORKERS, ARIZONA PHYSICIANS IPA (APIPA), EVERCARE AZ / MERCY CARE AZ, ONE CARE AZ / CARE 1ST AZ, MARICOPA HEALTH PLAN (MHP).



For more information, contact Senior Services at 480-816-5226 or visit the Town of Fountain Hills website at www.fh.az.gov.

Recreation Delivers October Fun

Sign up for a Town of Fountain Hills Community Services class during the month of October. There is so much to do as the weather begins to cool. Remember, you can sign up for all classes by surfing on over to <http://www.fh.az.gov/recreation>. Classes are first-come, first-served — so don't delay.

One-Day Workshops and Seminars

CPR Training

If you want to learn how to save a life in a moment of need and are at least 16 years old, become certified in CPR through the American Safety and Health Institute. This course is not offered to healthcare professionals. The course is offered Saturday, October 9, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at a cost of \$30 to residents and \$40 to non-residents. Fountain Hills High School students can receive community service hours by obtaining certification. Cost to students is \$20. You must sign up before noon on the Thursday prior to the class. Course #5407.

Sports Activities

Junior Golf

Kids learn from the pros how to drive, pitch, and putt, as well as everything they need to know about the game of golf. There is a limit of 8 students in each 4-class session to guarantee a low student-to-teacher ratio. Classes will be held Mondays and Wednesdays, October 11-20 from 4 to 5 p.m. The course costs \$52 and is held at the Sunridge Canyon Golf Club, led by its Director of Instruction, Jeff Newell. Course #5390.



Youth Tennis

We are excited to have Tennis Pro Inna Zvorikina instructing our Youth Tennis this fall at Golden Eagle Park. She is a USTA Certified Recreational Coach and coached at Indian School Park in Scottsdale for several years after beginning her coaching career in New York.

Pee Wee — 4-6 years old; \$80 per participant. Tuesdays, October 26—

December 14, from 5:00-5:45 p.m. Course #5500. Tuesdays, October 26—December 14, from 6:00-6:45 p.m. Course #5501.



Beginners — 11-13 years old; \$90 per participant. Thursdays, October 21—December 16, from 6-7 p.m. Course #5497.

Advanced — 11-13 years old; \$90 per participant. Thursdays, October 21—December 16, from 7-8 p.m. Course #5499.

Beginners — 7-12 years old; \$90 per participant. Saturdays, October 23—December 18, from 9-10 a.m. Course #5491.

Advanced — 7-12 years old; \$90 per participant. Saturdays, October 23—December 18, from 10-11 a.m. Course #5496.

Adult Basketball—5 on 5 Pick-Up Games

Teams are formed randomly each week by shooting free throws. There are no officials—honor call system is used. The emphasis is on having fun and playing recreational basketball. This a great chance to socialize with other basketball enthusiasts and work on fitness at the same time. Games are played Wednesday evenings, October 6-November 17, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Fountain Hills Middle School Gymnasium. Cost to participate is \$42 per participant. Course #5433.



Adult Golf Lessons at Eagle Mountain

Let the staff at the Golf Club at Eagle Mountain and Director of Instruction, Derek Nannen, help you perfect your golf game. Clubs and practice balls are available during class time, but please

bring your own clubs if you have them. All courses are held on Saturdays, October 30-November 20 and cost \$110 per participant.

Golf 101: Learn the Basics. This program will concentrate on the basic fundamentals of the swing. Students will learn the proper grip, posture, alignment, ball positions, and club selection. 2:30-3:30 p.m. Course #5420.



Golf 202: Full Swing Mechanics. This program is designed for those who have had some golfing experience. This class will help you improve your current swing plane, which is a key ingredient for better accuracy and improved distance. 4:30-5:30 p.m. Course #5422.

Golf Instruction: Short Game. The short game course will teach you all the shots from 100 yards in. Putting, chipping, pitching, bunkers, and overall shot making techniques from around the green will help you improve your score. All skill levels are welcome. Green fees and cart rental are included. 3:30-4:30 p.m. Course #5427.

Soccer Tots

SoccerTots Arizona is a nationally recognized soccer program. Now you can have your child begin to learn soccer in this professionally designed program for kids. Our non-competitive approach allows your kids to learn the basics while having fun. All equipment (EXCEPT A BALL) is provided. Parent involvement is encouraged for maximum fun. Please bring #2 or #3 ball and a HUGE water bottle, as we like to run the kids. This is a 6-week program with 45 minute classes — and time flies by quickly, so please arrive on time. All courses are held on Saturdays, October 16-November 20, at Four Peaks Park and the cost is \$85 per participant.

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Recreation Delivers October Fun

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Advanced Beginners/Dribblers

Using the soccer ball more in this class, the concept of dribbling is introduced via our patented Penguin/Duck walk. Other games introduce the concept of headers, eye tracking for kicking, and HUGE GOALS! Please bring #3 size ball. Ages 31 months – Under 4 years. 9:00-9:45 a.m. Course #5429.

Beginners

100% parent participation class using many colorful props to engage young children in fine and gross motor skill activities. Soft structured approach. Please bring #2 or #3 size ball. Ages 18 months – 30 months. 10:00-10:45 a.m. Course #5430.

Kickers Through Attackers

Concentration on always scoring the big goals, punch kicks, dribbling, and overall ball use is kicked up here in these classes. Pull backs, shielding, heads up dribbling, passing to teammates, and goalie skills are stressed. They are typically running from the beginning of class through the end. Please bring #3 or larger size ball. 4-6 year olds. 11:00-11:45 a.m. Course #5431.

Pickleball

Pickleball mania is alive and well in the hills of Arizona. Fountain Hills has six pickleball courts (three lighted) where a fun-loving group gets together three to four times a week (or more!) to play, exercise, and improve their pickleball skills. Who says you can't get the benefit of exercise and have fun too? What is pickleball? Pickleball is a blend of tennis, badminton, and ping pong. It can be played indoors or outdoors. Pickleball is a great way to meet new people and play a game that is right for a variety of skill levels and ages. It is a fun, easy sport to learn! Come swing a paddle with us and enjoy one of the fastest growing sports in America. The *Town of Fountain Hills Community*



Services is a proud partner of the Fountain Hills Pickleball Club. For more information on open play, lessons, and courts, check out www.fountainhillspickleball.com.

Special Interest Programs

Creative Writing

Flannery O'Connor said that anyone who survives childhood has enough material to write about for the rest of his or her life. Stories reside at the very core of our being. They are personalized by our unique vision of the world and our sense of what is true. Whether you aspire to write poetry, memoirs, essays on the state of the world, or fiction; sometimes the hardest part is getting started. With the support and encouragement of others in this non-threatening workshop, you will find interesting and fun ways to begin writing for the rest of your life. If you don't tell your stories, who will? This course is offered on Tuesday afternoons, October 5-November 9, from 1:30-4:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Cost is \$80 per participant. Course #5398.



Drawing

Anybody can learn to draw! Before you paint you need to have a good drawing. Class includes demonstration, one-on-one assistance, and helpful critique to get you on your way. Apply design principles to your own creative ideas. Bring only pencil and drawing paper to first class, plus paper to take notes. This course is offered on Tuesday afternoons, October 12-November 30, from 1-3 p.m. at the Community Center. Cost is \$75 per participant. Course #5399.



Embrace the Moon Tai Chi

The movements in Embrace the Moon Tai Chi are serene, low impact, and gently flowing moves that promote balance and harmony between our body, mind, and spirit. Some describe it as meditation in motion. There are many benefits to Tai Chi including relaxation, increased awareness and focus, increased flexibility and balance, and much more. Tai Chi is practiced by millions of people, of all ages, around the world every day to achieve balance and harmony in their health and in their lives. This course is offered on Tuesday evenings, October 5-November 16, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Cost is \$100 per participant. Course #5411.



Oil Painting and Mixed Media

Learn about oil paints, color mixing, brushes, mediums, and how to begin a simple painting. The instructor will discuss types of paints, brushes, media, and other painting supports. A basic drawing class is preferred, but no experience is required. This class will explore the fun and adventures of beginning oil painting, as well as provide assistance for those with works in progress. The course is offered on Monday mornings October 25—December 6 from 9 a.m. to 12 Noon at the Community Center. Cost is \$110 per participant. Course #5401.



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Recreation Delivers October Fun

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Yoga

Take one of these healthy and relaxing Yoga classes. Revitalize and refresh



yourself whether you are in a beginner or intermediate class, you will see the benefits immediately! Please bring a mat and water with you. Dress comfortably. Yoga is performed in bare feet. Cost is \$48 per participant. All classes are held at Yoga Village — 16650 E. Palisades, Ste. 107.

Beginning — Mondays, September 27-October 18, from 8:30-9:50 a.m. Course #5461.

Beginning — Thursdays, September 30-October 21, from 5:30-6:50 p.m. Course #5457.

Restorative — Sundays, October 3-24, from 5:30-6:50 p.m. Course #5465.

Beginning — Mondays, October 25-November 15, from 8:30-9:50 a.m. Course #5462.

Beginning — Thursdays, October 28-December 2, from 5:30-6:50 p.m. Course #5458.

Restorative — Sundays, October 31-November 21, from 5:30-6:50 p.m. Course #5466.

Gardening

Gardening basics covering soil, landscaping, plant selection, irrigation, and care. Learn about native plants, low water landscapes, wildflowers, trees, and growing food.



All levels welcome, no plant project too small or too big to cover in class! Fam-

ily Gardening will be held Thursdays, October 14-21, from 6-8 p.m. Cost is \$70 per participant. All classes will be held at the Community Center. Course #5454.

We Want to Hear From You

The Town of Fountain Hills, in partnership with our affiliates and other support organizations, offer a variety of educational and recreational programs. These programs are administered by the Department of Community Services.

If you ever have any questions or have feedback you'd like to share with us, please do not hesitate to call The Town of Fountain Hills at (480) 816-5100 and ask for Community Services. Or you can log onto our website at www.fh.az.gov. Our mission is to enhance the quality of life in our community. Your participation and feedback are key to accomplishing this.

McDowell Mountain Commission Unveils Fall Hike Schedule

The McDowell Mountain Preservation Commission and the Sonoran Conservancy of Fountain Hills have prepared quite a diverse fall hike schedule. The Trail Fitness Hike, starting at the end of Eagle Ridge Drive and scheduled for October 2nd, will be led by Kerrienne Sand. This moderate hike will be 4-8 miles, depending on the hikers. Hikers may choose a trail with the leader once in the Preserve. Emphasis will be on learning all the tricks to stay fit once on the trail. So, get off the couch, grab two bottles of water, and enjoy the outdoor beauty and fresh air.



Next is the Kids and McDowell Mountain Celebration Hike starting at the Golden Eagle Trailhead scheduled for Saturday, October 23rd and led by Fountain Hills Town Mayor Jay Schlum and Ranger Amy Ford. This easy to moderate, three mile hike will teach the Kids about the critters in the Preserve and will end with breakfast with the Mayor. Kids who hiked eat free. Children under 12 must have a parent with them....so c'mon Mom, Dad, Grandma, and Grandpa! Join the fun!

All hikes will start at 8 a.m. and each hiker must register at the start of each hike. Hikes are FREE, with exception of the \$2 entry fee into the McDowell Mountain Regional Park. Hikes beginning at the end of Eagle Ridge Drive must start and finish with stewards as we cross private land. Hikes beginning from Golden Eagle Trailhead require the \$2 fee for the Regional Park.



Fountain Hills Represented at League Conference

Fountain Hills was well represented at the Annual League of Cities and Towns Conference in August. Town officials and members of the Mayor's Youth Council were able to attend sessions that addressed the economic climate in Arizona, community and environmental sustainability, digital connectivity, and scores of other learning experiences. Youth attendees were able to learn about how state government works and even enjoyed a visit with Governor Brewer.

The Arizona League of Cities and Towns Annual Conference, (Front Row L-R: Nicolas Everetts, Carly Schlum and Amy Sanders, Councilmember Ginny Dickey, Kathy Worrell, Councilmember Henry Leger, Mayor Jay Schlum. Back Row L-R: Jim Dickey, Vice Mayor Dennis Brown, and Town Manager Rick Davis.) More on the conference in the next issue of the AveNEWS.

The League Conference is presented annually by the Arizona League of Cities and Towns. This year the conference was held in Glendale. Next year's conference will be in Tucson.

Come to the Expo and Discover How to Make a Difference

Interested in volunteering but don't know what opportunities might exist in Fountain Hills? Have you ever wondered what clubs and organizations are available in Town? Then, the Fountain Hills Volunteer, Club & Organization EXPO is perfect for you!

The Town of Fountain Hills has again joined in partnership with the Fountain Hills Cultural & Civic Association for the Second Annual Volunteer, Club &

Organization Expo to be held on Wednesday, October 20th between 3 and 7 p.m. in the Community Center Ballroom. Over 40 organizations and clubs will be represented at this event, and club/organization members will be ready to provide information about their respective groups and answer questions. You will be able to find out what volunteer activities interest you and where you might be interested in joining or volunteering your services. There will be social organizations, service and support clubs, and clubs for kids and hobbyists.

The EXPO is open to all ages and is free to participating groups — and free to the public. Come join us for light refreshments and find out about fun and rewarding opportunities available to you in Fountain Hills. Again, Wednesday, October 20th, Community Center, 3 -7 p.m. Questions? Call Heather Ware, 480-816-5108, hware@fh.az.gov; or Boyce Baldwin, 480-816-1753, Boyce-Baldwin@yahoo.com.



Town of Fountain Hills, AZ

16705 E. Avenue of the Fountains
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

The Height of Desert Living

Mayor

Jay T. Schlum

Vice Mayor

Dennis Brown

Council Members

Dennis Contino

Ginny Dickey

Tait Elkie

Cassie Hansen

Henry Leger

Town Manager

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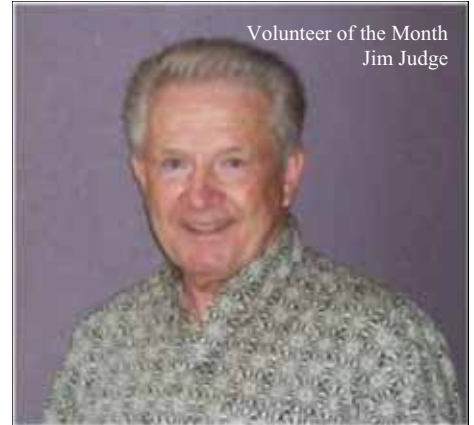
Volunteer of the Month

“Treat all people with respect and dignity,” is a core belief of the Volunteer of the Month for October, Jim Judge. Jim lives out this core value in all that he does, whether it is caring for his wife of 47 years, Carlita who lives with Parkinson’s disease, recruiting members for the Senior and Boomer Center, or providing rides for homebound residents to their medical appointments.

Jim learned early on in his 40+ year career as the Human Resource Director with the John Deere Company that the treatment of others makes a difference in the way they feel valued in the workplace and also outside of work. That same energy and enthusiasm has carried over in all aspects of his life... his devotion to caring for Carlita through her many years with Parkinson’s led him to accept the invitation to help start a support group for Parkinson’s — and then a year later a Care-givers’ Support Group, both of which are invaluable in our community.

He will be the first to give credit to his respected friends, Bruce Florence and Bill Whitaker, for their many contributions to these groups as well. Jim will also tell you that joining a support or caregiver group as quickly as possible upon diagnosis is the most valuable assistance one can get. Providing leadership in these groups led to the Parkinson’s Group also participating in the Adopt a Street program that involves many residents today.

Jim’s motivation and determination also were nurtured through these volunteer efforts. His concerns for people who are unable to care for themselves, including children, are foremost in his works. “A lot of people in our town are living only on their Social Security income, are homebound, and cannot care for themselves. If the community cannot help them by providing transportation and good balanced meals, then they will have no choice but to go to a nursing home,” Jim states.



Volunteer of the Month
Jim Judge

“Volunteering is absolutely important in life. You always get more than you give.”

He has taken these concerns and issues that the elderly face to heart by serving as the Chair of the Senior Services Advisory Commission; as a volunteer for the “Give a Lift” transportation program, and by participating in the Men’s Discussion group. Judge is quick to enlighten

many others about a recent study conducted by Harvard University that demonstrates that those people who join in activities and connect with others, those who engage in human interactions and keep their mind alert will stay healthier and live longer. “These are good enough reasons to volunteer and stay active!!” he quips.

Jim and Carlita moved to Fountain Hills seven years ago and carefully searched to find the right place to retire. They were impressed with the scenic beauty, the small town feeling, and especially the friendliness of the people. They raised their two children in Iowa and Illinois and delight in spending time with their two grandchildren in Minnesota.

When Jim is not in his yard cutting limbs and branches, he is likely in Minnesota cutting wood or snowmobiling with the grandchildren or enjoying his new “muscle” car around town! “Volunteering is absolutely important in life. You always get more than you give — the feeling of self worth that comes from it is hard to describe,” Judge exclaims. We are grateful to you for your service, Jim!

Many congratulations for all that you have given to the community!